

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 02705 301405Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----301413Z 081579 /42

P 301328Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3766

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 2705

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US
SUBJ: ETHIOPIA: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

1. AS WE ENTER FINAL STAGES OF IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF WITHDRAWAL FROM FIVE INSTALLATIONS IN ETHIOPIA, WE ARE BEGINNING TO THINK ABOUT WHAT OUR POSTURE HERE IN COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS (ASSUMING EPMG DOES NOT SHUT US DOWN ENTIRELY) OUGHT TO BE.

2. AS REPORTED SEPTEL, THIS WEEKEND MAY GIVE US CLUES FROM THE INTENSITY AND VOLUME OF ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA THAT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY APPEAR DURING MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION. BUT ASSUMING WE ARE NOT MUCH WORSE OFF ON MAY 2 THAN WE ARE TODAY, IT STRIKES US THAT TEMPTING THOUGH IT MAY BE TO DO SOMETHING ELSE, RIGHT NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO PLAY IT COOL AND TO AVOID ANY PRECIPITATE ACTION OR REACTION. PMAC IS ALMOST CERTAINLY WATCHING WHAT WE DO VERY CLOSELY AND CAN BE EXPECTED, UNLESS DIE IS ALREADY CAST, IN PART TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS WITH REGARD TO FUTURE BILATERAL RELATIONS INCLUDING POSSIBLE INSISTENCE ON ADDITIONAL CUTS IN EMBASSY AND AID STAFFS AFTER TAKING OUR REACTIONS INTO ACCOUNT.

3. THUS IF IT IS IN OUR LONG-TERM INTEREST TO STAY HERE, AND I BELIEVE IT IS, THEN IN MY JUDGMENT WE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ADDIS 02705 301405Z

SHOULD TRY TO AVOID DOING OR SAYING ANYTHING THAT WILL GIVE DIRG AMMUNITION IT MAY WANT, NEED, COULD USE, OR HOPE WE WILL PROVIDE, TO CRACK DOWN HARDER ON US. BY AND LARGE DIRG IS AN UNPLEASANT GROUP, BUT NONETHELESS, IN OUR JUDGMENT IT IS LIKELY BE AROUND FOR A WHILE, AND WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT AS BEST WE CAN IF WE CHOOSE TO STAY HERE.

4. SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION WILL NO DOUBT BE INTER-
PRETED IN MANY QUARTERS OUTSIDE OF ETHIOPIA AS DIFFICULT
TO UNDERSTAND, I.E., WHY SHOULD WE, A GREAT POWER,
SEEMINGLY ACQUIESCE QUIETLY WITHOUT TAKING SOME OBVIOUS
RETALIATORY STEP. WITHIN ETHIOPIA, IT WILL LIKELY
GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT TO THOSE OF DIRG INCLUDING PROBABLY
MENGISTU HIMSELF WHO HAVE BIT IN THEIR TEETH IN THEIR
DEALINGS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES THAT THEY CAN DO THESE
THINGS WITH IMPUNITY AND GET AWAY WITH IT. ANSWER, I
BELIEVE, LIES IN WHAT WE PERCEIVE OUR OWN LONG-TERM
INTERESTS TO BE IN THIS PART OF WORLD.

5. WE SHALL BE DOING MORE THINKING IN NEXT FEW DAYS
ABOUT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF WHAT WE THINK OUR POLICY SHOULD
CONSIST OF, E.G., IN ADDITION TO "NORMAL" DIPLOMACY,
WHAT WE MIGHT DO OR NOT DO BY WAY OF ECONOMIC AND
MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AND WILL SUBMIT FUTHER RECOMMENDA-
TIONS AT THAT TIME.
TIENKEN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02705
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770152-0303
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977042/aaaaabdj.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 28981c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2694855
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIA: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/28981c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009